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# NAACP

**West  
Virginia**  
**NAACP**  
**Owens L. Brown,**  
**President**  
20 Stackyard Rd., Wheeling,  
WV 26003

[WVStateNAACP@gmail.com](mailto:WVStateNAACP@gmail.com)

(304) 280 1204

December 2, 2018

Honorable Jim Justice  
Governor of West Virginia  
Office of the Governor  
State Capitol  
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Governor Justice:

I am writing you in regards to the selection of the new executive director of the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs.

It has been brought to the attention of the NAACP that Delegate Jill Upson may be being considered for the Executive Director's position. This issue came before the body of the State NAACP at our Winter Meeting held on December 1, 2018 in Fairmont. I had also heard this from a number of different people. If this is true the NAACP would like to voice our opposition to her possible selection.

By a unanimous vote the Body opposes her possible selection as the executive director of the HHOOMA. We as an organization do not believe that she represents the spirit by which the HHOOMA was created. Delegate Jill Upson was the chairperson of the Interim Select Committee on Minority Affairs. This committee is charged with oversight responsibilities for the HHOOMA. The committee did not meet for almost 2 years and just recently had a meeting during the last interim session.

The NAACP felt as though Delegate Upton showed a level of insensitivity during her campaign by her response to the racist remarks used in an ad produce by a PAC committee she chaired. We had asked her to resign as the delegate from Jefferson County because of her involvement in a PAC that was so obviously attempting to suppress the African/American vote.

Furthermore: Many African/Americans statewide feel as though that they have trouble relating to her and feel as though that she would not represent the interest of the people. These are the reasons that we oppose Delegate Jill Upton's possible selection to become the new executive director of the HHOOMA.

Sincerely,

Owens L. Brown, President  
WV NAACP

C: AnnUrling